



The South Carolina Arts Commission was established in 1967 as a state agency to develop a comprehensive statewide program to advance opportunities and excellence in the arts.

The Commission works to ensure that every S.C. citizen – regardless of place or circumstances – has access to the arts by providing comprehensive arts resources and fostering an environment in which artists can prosper. In addition to state appropriations, the Commission receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, private foundations, and community sponsors.

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FY18 was a milestone year for the South Carolina Arts Commission. We celebrated 50 years of public support for the arts with statewide events and exhibitions and an outstanding “Celebration Finale” gala in Greenville – with our thanks to the South Carolina Arts Foundation and their sponsors for making these events possible.

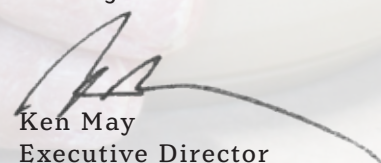
Within these pages are highlights from our past year of work. Our goal is to provide a visual representation of the impact S.C. Arts Commission grants and programs make from the mountains to the coast.

It was a good year. Nearly unanimous veto override votes in the S.C. General Assembly (the count was 145-9 between both chambers) secured \$350,000 in new funding for grants, professional development, and rural arts development across the state. During the 2018 session, legislators added \$450,000 more to the Arts Commissions budget for investment in the coming year.

In February, a new study we commissioned showed that the arts and creative sectors contribute \$9.7 billion and 115,000 jobs to the South Carolina economy.

Four impressive artists were added to the ranks of Individual Artist Fellows. Five people or organizations received recognition for their contributions to the arts by receiving the Elizabeth O’Neill Verner Governor’s Award for the Arts, and four artists and one advocate received the Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Award for keeping alive traditional art forms of specific importance to the Palmetto State.

Read on to learn more about our year while we undertake the task of making the next even better.



Ken May
Executive Director



FYInformation:



\$ 4,060,290 and xx/100

awarded through 398 grants in FY18

44 (of 46)
counties
received
grants

#1

South Carolina’s first
Poetry Out Loud
national champion!
(For more, keep reading.)

167,491
S.C. students served by

78
Arts in Basic Curriculum
(ABC) Project sites

S.C. Arts Commission
grants supported
1,236,652
learning opportunities
through the arts

!

- Through staff consultation, grants, and direct programs, the S.C. Arts Commission **impacted all 46 counties**.
- The agency **expended 75% of its state appropriation in grants** – exceeding its legislative mandate of 70%.
- SCAC grantees reported **8,033,746 arts experiences** for state residents and visitors.
- In February 2018, the agency released a new study conducted by USC researchers on the economic impact of the arts. It showed that South Carolina’s **arts-related sector adds \$9.7 billion to the state’s economy** through jobs (nearly 115,000), tax revenue (\$269 million) and spending.
- A partnership between Midlands Technical College and the SCAC resulted in an 10-week, Kauffman FastTrac® online course for **arts entrepreneurs to receive business training**.
- “Art of Community: Rural S.C.,” a **national model for rural creative placemaking**, was featured at a briefing in January at the National Press Club in Washington.

Front cover image and images this spread by:
Jake Francek/Social Design House

Elizabeth O'Neill Verner
GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR THE ARTS

ARTIST

Tom Stanley • Rock Hill

INDIVIDUAL

Alan Ethridge • Greenville

ARTS IN EDUCATION

Dr. Anne S. Richardson • Columbia

BUSINESS

Bank of America • Columbia

ORGANIZATION

Ballet Spartanburg • Spartanburg



Jean Laney Harris
FOLK HERITAGE AWARDS

FOLKLIFE & TRADITIONAL ARTS ADVOCACY

Dr. Stephen Criswell • Lancaster

PIEDMONT BLUES

J. Michael King • Greenville

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUALS

**Deacon James Garfield Smalls
• St. Helena Island**

SWEETGRASS BASKETRY

Henrietta Snype • Mount Pleasant

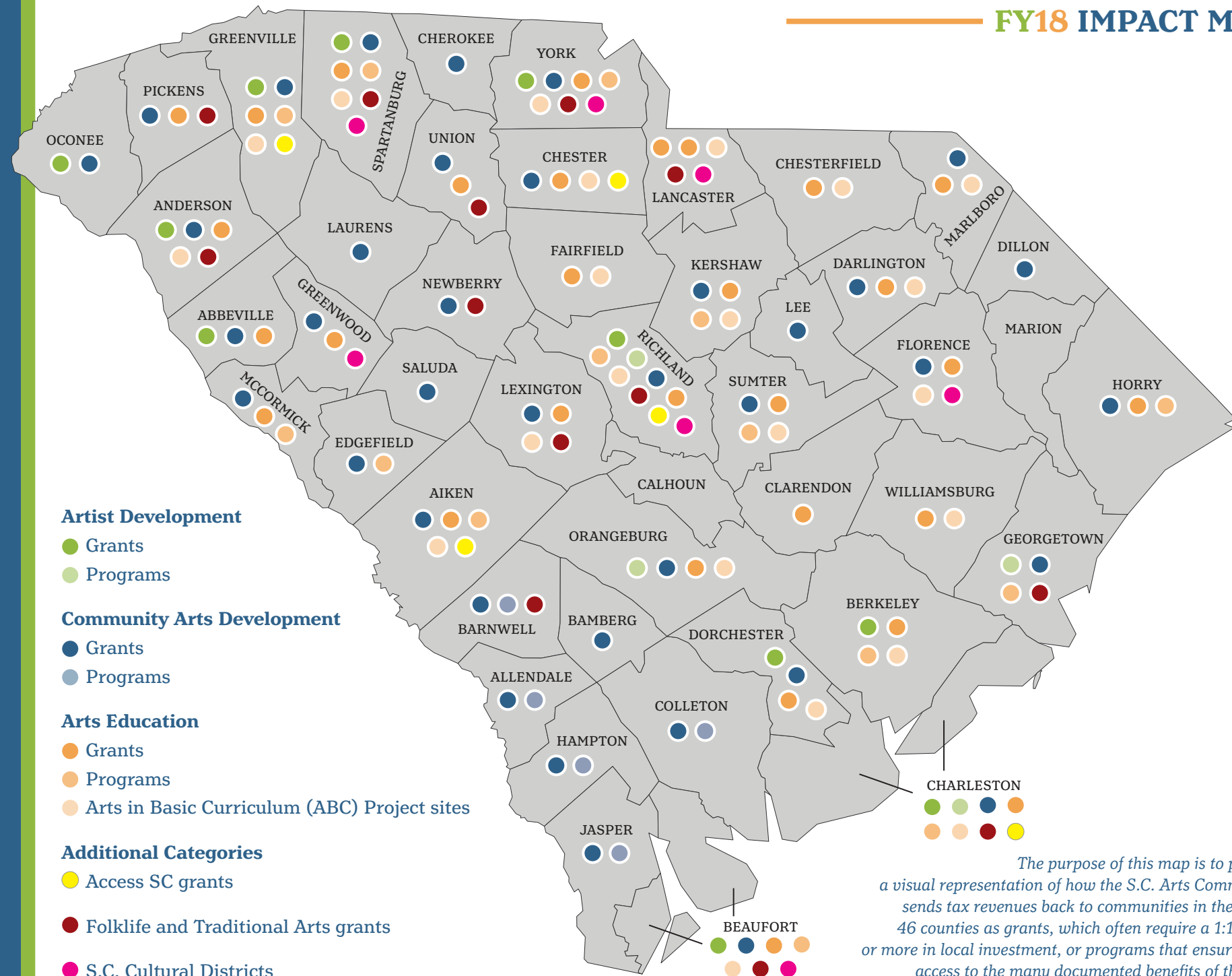
A CAPELLA SPIRITUAL & GOSPEL SINGING

The Blackville Community Choir • Blackville

In partnership with
McKissick Museum | University of South Carolina

Image by:
Zan Maddox/Social Design House

FY18 IMPACT MAP



Artist Development

Grants

- Individual Artist Fellowships
\$5,000 unrestricted grants over a one-year period to reward and foster further artistic excellence.
- Quarterly projects support
- S.C. Artists Ventures Initiative
Helping S.C. artists develop the knowledge and skills to build satisfying, sustainable careers with access to affordable, specialized training and investment.

Programs

- ArtsGrowSC
Personal and professional development for artists with arts-based businesses.
- FastTrac® for Artists at Midlands Technical College
An online continuing education course based in Columbia.
- ArtistsU



Community Arts Development

Grants

- General Operating Support (GOS)
Operating support funding strengthens arts organizations that bring ongoing arts experiences and services to individuals, communities, and other organizations throughout the state by providing consistent, unrestricted support for basic operations. Require a 3:1 match.
- Operating Support for Small Organizations (OSS)
These grants, which require a 2:1 match, provide operating support to small, grassroots organizations enriching their communities with the arts.
- Presenting and Performing Arts Initiative (PPA)
PPA grants support the presentation (live performance) of South Carolina based performing artists, ensembles, and performing arts organizations throughout the state. Require a 1:1 match.
- Quarterly projects support
- Subgranting
Local arts "umbrella" groups match these funds 1:1 to provide grants to qualified artists and arts organizations they serve.

Programs

- Art of Community: Rural S.C.
Advances the S.C. Arts Commission's commitment to rural development through arts, culture, and creative placemaking by supporting new leadership, generating energy, and motivating action in a rural region of South Carolina.
- Create: Rural S.C.
Launched in late FY18, "Create" furthers the work of Art of Community by identifying and engaging young creatives in the same region, bringing more voices to its rural development conversation.

(Explanations continue on p. 10.)

Image by:
Jake Francek/Social Design House

FY18 Individual Artist Fellowship recipients

- ❶ Linda Fantuzzo
Visual Arts
- ❷ Elizabeth Keller
Craft
- ❸ Leasharn Hopkins
Media: Screenwriting
- ❹ Jason Gourdine
Media: Production

#SCartists



Image by:
James Kegley/NEA

And the 2018 Poetry Out Loud national champion is...

Janae Claxton of Charleston’s First Baptist School, posing with S.C. Arts Commission Executive Director Ken May in Washington just after her historic win.

It’s a South Carolina first!

“ [Poetry Out Loud] really does change your life. It really does have that power. For me, it changed my identity, made me see myself differently [and realize] I’m smart, I’m intelligent, I can do this. ”

– Janae Claxton

#SCartists



Arts Education

- **Grants**
 - **Arts Education Projects (AEP)**
Grants in this category fund projects and programs that use the arts to meet the educational, developmental and social needs of K-12 students.
 - **Teacher Standards Implementation (TSI)**
Help arts teachers acquire the supplies, materials, professional development, or other tools/expertise needed to meet South Carolina’s 2017 College and Career Ready Standards for Visual and Performing Arts Proficiency.
 - **Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Advancement**
Support schools and districts committed to implementing standards-based arts curricula and to making the arts an integral part of the basic curriculum and daily classroom instruction.
- **Programs**
 - **Poetry Out Loud**
A national program of the National Endowment for the Arts and Poetry Foundation administered locally by the S.C. Arts Commission.
- **Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project**
 - *A partnership with the S.C. Department of Education and Winthrop University supporting standards-based arts education initiatives, including artist residencies and residency-plus activities.*



Additional Categories

- **Access SC grants**
Help arts organizations make programs and existing facilities accessible to South Carolinians with disabilities.
- **Folklife and Traditional Arts grants and apprenticeships**
As expressions of a living culture, traditional arts have been handed down from one generation to the next and reflect the shared experience, aesthetics and values of a group.
 - *Grants support non-profit organizations that seek to promote and preserve the traditional arts practiced across the state.*
 - *Apprenticeships support master artists who seek to pass their artistic and cultural knowledge to qualified apprentices, provide apprentices with an opportunity to advance their cultural and artistic knowledge to a higher level so they can continue to pursue the art form beyond the life of the apprenticeships, and document the work and instruction of the master artist.*
- **S.C. Cultural Districts**
Geographic areas that each have a concentration of cultural facilities, activities and assets. They are walkable areas that are easily identifiable to visitors and residents and serve as a centers of cultural, artistic and economic activity. Legislation ratified by the South Carolina General Assembly and signed by Gov. Nikki Haley authorizes the S.C. Arts Commission to grant official state designation to cultural districts.

Images by:
Zan Maddox and Jake Francek/Social Design House



As we enter 2019, the S.C. Arts Commission is set to unveil a new brand identity to show cohesion among the state’s eight officially designated Cultural Districts. These walkable centers of cultural, artistic, and economic activity make the arts top-of-mind among residents and visitors alike and showcase the best of South Carolina. *We’ll see you there.*

Spartanburg Downtown Cultural District
Background image by:
Jake Francek/Social Design House

S.C.’S CULTURAL
DESTINATIONS

- Rock Hill
- Lancaster
- Spartanburg Downtown
- Congaree Vista
- Beaufort
- Bluffton
- Florence
- Greenwood

As of June 30, 2018



Hunter Sturgill
Wallowa Lake Monster
Spring 2018
steel
North Charleston Arts Fest 2018

#SCartists

Photo by:
Zan Maddox/
Social Design House

 **SOUTH
CAROLINA** **arts** COMMISSION
— **ANNUAL REPORT • FY18**

Henry McMaster, Governor
Henry Horowitz, Chairman
Ken May, Executive Director
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“... creating a thriving arts environment for the benefit of all South Carolinians.”